Funds for implementation of National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Programme

1025. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Orissa State has demanded release of funds for implementation of the National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Programme;

(b) if so, what is the status of the proposal;

(c) whether the State Government has also sought heat wave and lightening strikes to be declared natural calamities so that the affected persons could be compensated; and

(d) if so, what is the status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) The Orissa State Disaster Mitigation Authority had requested for release of funds for preparation of investment proposals under the proposed National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project. Accordingly, funds have been sanctioned to Orissa State Disaster Mitigation Authority for the project preparation activities.

(c) and (d) It is mentioned in the report of the Twelfth Finance Commission that Orissa and two other States had suggested declaration of 'heat and cold waves' and Haryana had suggested declaration of 'lightening' as natural calamities for the purpose of providing relief under the Calamity Relief Fund and the National Calamity Contingency Fund. The Twelfth Finance Commission however recommended that besides cyclone, drought, earthquake, fire, flood and hailstorm, the definition of natural calamity, as applicable at present, may be extended to cover landslides, avalanches, cloudburst and pest attacks.

Tips to U.P. Government about Ram Janam Bhoomi Temple

1026. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has given tips to Uttar Pradesh

State Government about probable attack on Ram Janam Bhoomi Temple;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) the preventive action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) Intelligence inputs have been received from time to time suggesting that certain jehadi groups were likely to target religious places, economic infrastructure and vital installations, national leaders, etc. These inputs were shared with the Government of Uttar Pradesh during April/May 2005;

The State Government of Uttar Pradesh has informed that appropriate security arrangements were made at the Ram Janam Bhoomi-Babri Masjid Complex in view of the potential threats. The attack by the terrorists on 5th July 2005 was successfully and promptly foiled and all the militants were neutralised.

More powers to panchayats to deal with naxal violence

†1027. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are seriously considering to give more and more powers to panchayats to check the naxalite violence in tribal dominated areas;

(b) if so, Government's plan in this regard;

(c) whether a discussion is being held between Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Panchayati Raj to enforce panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 in tribal areas;

(d) if so, whether Government have arrived at any conclusion; and

(e) the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) The Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Panchayati

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.